DOCUMENT CONSOLIDATOR AND DISTRIBUTOR FOR EFFICIENT

MESSAGE PRODUCTION

<u>Abstract of the Disclosure</u>

A message processing system for preparing a plurality of messages to be distributed to recipients. A consolidator module receives data corresponding to the plurality of messages to be processed. The consolidator module is programmed to select individual message do be consolidated in a single message package. The consolidator module consolidates messages based on predetermined criteria. Exemplary consolidation criteria may include messages to be delivered to the same mailing address, messages having proximal due dates, messages for which the sender and recipient have authorized consolidation, messages for which marketing content is compatible, and messages for which business considerations are compatible. A distributor module is coupled to the consolidator module and receives a data stream containing consolidated message packages. The distributor module is programmed to determine optimal routing for production and distribution of message packages based on further criteria. Exemplary distributor criteria may include customer preferences for physical or electronic document delivery, capabilities of message production sites, marketing rules, and sender distribution rules.